



Commission on Child Care Meeting Summary February 21, 2018

Members Present: Barbara Andrews, Michelle Belski, L'Ornya Bowie, Hashan Chowdhury, Carl Eggleston, Jessica Kelley, Ed Krauze, Sybil Philip, Laura Seminario-Thornton and Greg Smith

Members Absent: Lindsey Allard-Agnamba, Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta, Pamela Dunn, William Polman, Claudia Simmons, Greg Stevens and Dr. Mayme Williams

Guests Present: Tracy Clay (MDNAEYC), Mónica Ortiz (DHHS), Mike Subin (Office of the County Executive), Ken Reichard (US Senator Cardin's Office), and Christina Peusch (MSCCA)

Staff Present: Erin Stillwell (DHHS) and Sarah Wilch-Spamer (DHHS)

Greg Smith, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Minutes: Review of meeting minutes from November 15, 2017

ACTION: Motion to approve the minutes from November 15, 2017 as distributed.
Motion by: Sybil Philip
Seconded by: Hashan Chowdhury
All in Favor

Commission on Child Care Response to Board of Education *Framework and Structure of Early Childhood and Elementary Education*

Current wording of the draft response is based on the Montgomery County Child Care Association's response and will need to be changed.

ACTION: Motion to rewrite portions of the draft response and circulate to Commission for comments.
Motion by: Ed Krauze
Seconded by: L'Ornya Bowie
All in Favor

Discussion on Montgomery Moving Forward Call to Action

Montgomery Moving Forward has asked the Commission to endorse their Call to Action: Early Care and Education. Concerns that those involved in the field of Early Care and Education are not part of the conversation. The Commission will address this at the March 2018 full commission meeting.

Other Commission Business

- **Pre-K Research Group**
 - Mónica Ortiz provided an overview of the work of the group, which meets in person every other Friday; 1:00-3:00 p.m. at 1401 Rockville Pike. Additional meetings take place via phone and Skype.
 - Michelle Belski will be the primary representative from the Commission and Sybil Philip will be the secondary.
- **Membership**
 - Diana Holzberger is no longer on the Commission

Updates

- **WPA/Subsidy** (Yvonne Iscandari)
 - 105 children currently on the WPA waitlist
 - 78 children pending review for processing eligibility
 - WPA staff have been reaching out to families on the waitlist who have not responded. When asked why they have not responded, there were multiple reasons; e.g. family moved away, too expensive to live in Montgomery County, unemployment, no longer need care, etc.
 - State supplement has been extended to 0-8.
- **Early Childhood Coordinating Council** (Barbara Andrews)
 - ECCC had a meeting on February 21st
 - Budget updates provided by Joann Barnes (HHS) and Deann Collins (MCPS)
 - Michelle Green reviewed the Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) reports
- **State Early Care and Education Update** (Mónica Ortiz)
 - HB 0010: Unclaimed prizes state lottery winnings not collected could go toward funding preschool programs throughout the state. The Montgomery County Board of Education is in favor.
 - Other bills discussed: HB 0228 (would codify definition of child care—does not seem to be moving forward); HB 0883 (income tax credit for employers that provide onsite child care or provide an employee benefit for employees who pay for child care in other facilities—seems to be moving forward); HB 1415 (Kirwan Commission)
- **County and State Budget Development** (Barbara Andrews)
 - FY19 budget to be released on March 15, 2018—every department was asked to put in a reduction budget; Early Childhood Services made reductions to two contracts. There is a County hiring freeze.
- **Office of Child Care** (Carl Eggleston)
 - Staffing and regulation updates (new regulations to be released July 2018)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.